

## **GEOLOGIC HAZARD CLEARANCE (GHC)**

Department of Public Works, Development Services 801 N. First Street, Room 308, San Jose, CA 95110 (408) 277-5161 FAX (408) 277-3879

# **Applicability**

For development sites located within a City Geologic Hazard Zone, a **Geologic Hazard Clearance** must be obtained from the *Director of Public Works* prior to any discretionary approvals for development, including environmental clearance, zoning approval, grading permit, or building permits.

The purpose of the Geologic Hazard Clearance is to demonstrate that the proposed development is not endangered or potentially endangered by geologic hazards which may potentially affect the site or adjoining lands and the proposed improvements will adequately mitigate the identified geologic hazards.

## Instructions

#### **Initial Stage**

The applicant should discuss the proposed project with the City Engineering Geologist. The City Geologist resides in the Development Services Division, Department of Public Works, Room 308, City Hall.

#### **Submittal**

The applicant shall provide a complete application package to the City Geologist. The application package consists of the following:

- Official APPLICATION FORM with complete information, signature, and date.
- One (1) copy of the SITE PLAN indicating the location of the proposed improvements, proposed grading, and other pertinent data.
- One (1) copy of the **GEOLOGIC** and **SOIL/GEOTECHNICAL REPORT**, if required.
- PAYMENT OF FEES (refer to the fee schedule as listed in the Development Fee Schedule)

Upon submittal of the above items, the City Engineering Geologist will conduct a preliminary review of the proposed project and available geotechnical data for the site. Based on this review, a site specific geologic/soil/geotechnical assessment or investigation report may be required for the project.

#### **Secondary Stage**

If a site specific report is required, the required study should be performed by a qualified geotechnical consultant.



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The GEOLOGIC REPORT shall satisfactorily demonstrate, but not be limited to the following:

- 1) Identification of all potential geologic hazards.
- 2) Feasible geotechnical mitigation of all geologic hazards.
- 3) That the proposed development will not create new hazardous geologic conditions (by improper grading and drainage etc.).

### Type of **GEOTECHNICAL CONSULTANT REPORTS** typically required:

- 1) Geologic Hazards Assessment.
- 2) Geologic Hazards Investigation.
- 3) Geotechnical (Soil) Engineering Investigation.

The required **SITE SPECIFIC REPORT** is submitted to the City's Engineering Geologist for review of the following:

- If methods used and scope of work performed are adequately based on current professional standards.
- 2) Thoroughness. Are all geologic hazards adequately characterized and mitigated?
- 3) Conclusions must be supported by data presented.
- 4) Consistency with available geologic information.